

13
a message waiting notification generator coupled to said first and second interfaces and causing message waiting notification signals to be sent to said first and second stations substantially simultaneously over both said first network and said second network.

Please cancel claim 10.

14
13. (Once Amended) A method for providing messaging to a plurality of stations, the method comprising:

associating a telecommunication mailbox with two telecommunication stations, a first one of the two stations being coupled to a first network and a second one of the two stations being coupled to a second network;

receiving a message for said first station from said first network;

storing said message in said telecommunication mailbox; and

transmitting a message waiting notice to said two stations substantially simultaneously over both said first network and second network.

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1-17 have been rejected as anticipated by Pepe et al. (US Pat. No. 5,742,905).

The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the opportunity to conduct an Examiner interview on October 12, 1999, to discuss the Applicants' invention and the prior art. At the interview, the Examiner agreed that Applicants' independent claims 1, 7, and 13 would overcome the prior art of record if they were amended to recite transmitting a message waiting notice to both stations simultaneously. The Applicants have amended claims 1, 7, and 13 as recommended by the Examiner. For the reasons discussed below, the Applicants believe that these claims are not anticipated or suggested by either Pepe et al. or any other prior art of record.

1. Amendment of the Specification

The Specification has been amended to correct a minor typographical error and to conform to the drawings.

2. The prior art rejection of claims 1-17

Claims 1, 7 and 13 have been amended as suggested by the examiner to overcome the prior art Pepe et al. reference. Pepe et al. does not teach transmitting a message waiting notice to both stations as recited in claims 7 and 13. While Pepe et al. teaches cross-media notification of messages, such as the sending of message notification via e-mail to a personal digital assistant (col. 20, lines 42-54), it does not teach sending message waiting indicators to both the telephone instrument on the wireless network and the telephone instrument on the wired network.

In addition, claims 1, 7 and 13 also recite a voice mailbox associated with two different stations, each station being connected or coupled to different networks. The specification for the current application explains that, in accordance with the present invention, there is a single voice mailbox for the subscriber "which will receive messages directed to either one or both of the telephone instruments 112 and 201." Pepe et al. does not disclose this feature of claims 1, 7 and 13. Although a user of the system in Pepe et al. may use a wireless phone or a wireline phone, they are not different "stations" within the meaning of claims 1, 7 and 13 because these phones have the same phone number. Thus, Pepe et al. states that "[t]he mobile communications subscriber can receive e-mail, fax, pages, and voice messages under *a single phone number* while using either a wireless or wireline network." Col. 5, lines 59-62 (emphasis added). The wireless and wireline phones therefore do not act as independent stations. Claims 1, 7 and 13 are therefore not taught or suggested by Pepe et al.

For at least the above reasons, it is believed that claims 1, 7 and 13 represent patentable subject matter over Pepe et al. Removal of the rejections with respect to these claims is respectfully requested. Further, dependent claims 2-6, 8-12, and 14-17 all depend from claims 1, 7 or 13. Therefore, these claims are patentable for at least those reasons presented for claims 1, 7 and 13. Removal of the rejections with respect to these claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is believed that all claims remaining in this application are in condition for allowance, prompt notice of which is respectfully solicited.

The Office is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

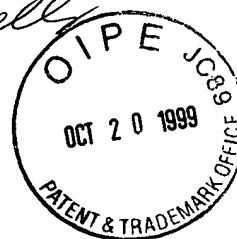
The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 220-4310 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Oct. 18, 1999

Kenneth R. Corsello

Kenneth R. Corsello
Registration No. 38115



KENYON & KENYON
1500 K St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 220-4310 (Tel)
(202) 220-4201 (Fax)

RECEIVED
OCT 22 1999
TECH CENTER 2700